

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e). Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

### **Delivery of Letters**

353. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints regarding unprecedented delay in delivery of postal letters in remote areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the reasons for delay; and

(c) the steps being taken to ensure quick delivery of letters in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. There are instances of delay to mail in remote areas, characterised by difficult terrain and weather. Snowfalls, floods, land slides and breaches in roads are some of the causes. There are, besides, sectors where mail takes, seasonally, longer than at other times because transport is at intervals of days or weeks. These situations are not unprecedented.

(c) Movement of mail to every part of the country is designed as a network and is reviewed from time to time. Its working is also continuously monitored and wherever failures are noticed corrective steps are taken. By and large, Department's service norms are maintained except where external disruptions or exceptionally heavy volumes affect the regular movement of mail.

[*English*]

### **National Media Policy**

354. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received the recommendations from Sub-Committee of the Consultative Committee of his Ministry on the National Media Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) if not, the time by which the recommendations are likely to be received.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI P.M. SAYEED):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

(d) The Sub-Committee is in the process of finalising the report. The recommendations would be received only thereafter.

[*Translation*]

### **P&T Facilities in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh**

355. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:  
SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Gram Panchayats having telephone and post office facilities in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh, district-wise;

(b) the time limit fixed to provide such facilities to each Gram Panchayat;

(c) the number of Gram Panchayats having the facility of telegram in the post offices and the details of the scheme for extension of this facility; and

(d) the details of programmes for providing "Speed-post" services in the main cities of the States, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) (i) The number of Gram Panchayats having Public Telephone facility in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh are 11951 and 18720 respectively. District-wise details are given in the Statement I & II respectively.

(ii) The numbers of Gram Panchayats having Post Office facility in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh are 7875 and 10894 respectively. District-wise details are given in Statement III & IV respectively.

(b) (i) Public Telephone facility have been planned to be provided to all villages including Gram Panchayats by the year 1997.

(ii) Post Offices are opened progressively under plan schemes subject to fulfilment of departmental norms and